

PEACE ON EARTH
GOOD WILL
TOWARDS MEN

The Northfield Press

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TOWARDS MEN

Northfield — East Northfield — West Northfield — South Vernon — Vernon — Mount Hermon — Gill — Northfield Farms

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Northfield, Massachusetts, Friday, December 25, 1936

Price, Three Cents



Many Ski Trails In Western Mass.; Northfield Listed

Boston and New York papers for the past two weeks have come out with an abundance of publicity about skiing and ski trails. The sport is rapidly winning popular favor and dealers everywhere report an unusual sale of skis and ski equipment. Both young and old are now enjoying the sport. Even automobiles are being provided with special facilities for carrying ski outfits. Western Massachusetts is in the limelight largely because of the large number of trails to be found here. Maps of location are being published and the lists given in the newspapers includes many in Franklin county and some in and about Northfield. Here is the information hereabouts:

Warwick, East Northfield, Orange; Mt. Grace trail—State reservation; class, intermediate; starts at summit and extends north and east; length, one mile; width, 10 to 60 feet; four inches snow; designed to meet United States Eastern Amateur Ski association requirements.

Tripod trail—East side of Mt. Grace; length, .75 mile; class, novice.

Gulf Link trail—Mt. Grace state reservation, runs from the Tripod; length, 5 mile; width, 8 to 25 feet; exposure, north; four inches of snow; class, novice.

Warwick trail—Mt. Grace state reservation; class, novice; length, eight miles; south and east down the old road to Warwick village.

Ober's Old Stage Coach road trail—Class, novice; length, one mile; exposure, west; six inches of snow.

Northfield trail—Located near East Northfield. A splendid hill about 850 feet long; class, novice.

The Northfield hotel is given as headquarters for this district and so our community may see many lovers of the sport spending many days here throughout the season.

The Christmas Party For Sunday School

The young folks of the Sunday school of the Congregational church held their Christmas party last Monday evening and they had a good time. Supper was served at 6:30 to over a hundred members. The tables were decorated with laurel and other greens and the predominant color was red. Each teacher sat with her class. Carols were sung led by Prof. Lawrence with Leon Dummell at the piano. The picture "Captain January" was shown on the screen and afterward Santa appeared in the person of Mark Wright who gave to each child a box of candy as they marched forward to the hymn of "Onward Christian Soldiers." It was a gay and festive party for the Sunday school.

The committee in charge was Mrs. Blanche Mitchell, chairman, Mrs. Esther Bolton, Mrs. Doris Bolton, Mrs. Dana Leavis, Mrs. Hazel Johnson and Mrs. Alice James.

Observed Birthday

In a quiet way, the Rev. Charles C. Conner observed his 80th birthday, at his home on Winchester road, last Wednesday. Friends called from North Adams to extend their greetings, as well as others from town. Mr. Conner is enjoying a good degree of health and keeps steadily at work each day upon his literary efforts. The Press congratulates.

Senator-elect Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., has selected his home in Washington to occupy with his family during his term of office. It is located in Georgetown district and is a historic mansion of the Georgian style where once Lafayette and other celebrities were once entertained.

Report Completed Annual Roll Call Of The Red Cross

The Northfield committee in charge of the annual roll call of the American Red Cross has completed its efforts and there has been secured in town the sum of \$405.66 which has been turned over to the County Chapter. In this amount are recorded 339 membership and \$66.66 in cash contributions.

Mr. A. G. Moody, chairman of the committee, wishes to express his appreciation in behalf of the Red Cross organization to all those who have enrolled or contributed and especially to the members of the local committee for their work and efforts in covering the district assigned to them and making the personal canvass.

While the total amount secured in the roll call did not reach a fabulous sum yet it did exceed the amount secured usually in Northfield for several years. It must also be remembered that the special disaster or flood fund raised hereabouts last March and April amounted to about \$1200.

Those on the local committee who assisted in the roll call are: Mrs. M. F. Miller, Mrs. L. R. Alexander, Miss Helen Handy, Miss Ethel Lawrence, Mrs. E. F. Howard, Mrs. E. S. Frary, Mrs. F. H. Montague, Mrs. R. M. Forsaith, Mrs. L. A. Polhemus, Mrs. Geo. H. Pefferlee, Mrs. Earl Danforth, Rev. and Mrs. George Bronson, Mrs. C. H. Miller, Mrs. Ernest Parker, Warren Billings, Charles Repeta, Mrs. I. C. Perry, Galen Stearns, Mrs. L. L. Harris, Miss Elizabeth Braley, Mrs. A. Gordon Moody and Miss E. Elithorpe.

Northfield Artist To Give Concert

Next Tuesday evening, Dec. 29, Leon Dummell and Miss Marie Pike will give a duo piano recital in the Reformed church of Jamaica, N. Y. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Dr. Robert A. Watson who is a summer resident of East Northfield and owns a cottage in Mountain Park. Mr. Dummell recently returned from Jamaica where he was a guest of friends.

To Form Chorus

The town committee in charge of the Moody Centenary arrangements for a meeting at the town hall on Thursday, Feb. 4, has requested Prof. Irving J. Lawrence to take charge of his musical part of the program and to form a community chorus for the singing. Mr. Lawrence has accepted the responsibility and will make definite announcement shortly.

White On Green

Motorists in town are securing their auto license plates for 1937 to be attached on Friday, Jan. 1. The plates are white on green and the color seems to be very much of a softer tone than the previous plates of the same color. The numerals are in white as well as the name of the state and year. Maine also will use a white on green number plate as will Mississippi and Manitoba. Florida will use white on emerald green, white on dark green will be seen on plates from the Canal zone and aluminum on green on Quebec plates.

Carol In Town

The members of the Girl Scout Troop I and II united Tuesday evening for a carol sing in various parts of the town occupying two automobiles. Lieut. Abbott, Potts and Thompson accompanied them. Afterwards Troop I went to Alexander hall and held a party. Games were played and refreshments were served. There will be no meeting next week.



The Hostel Reunion Which Is Held Here Brings Many Visitors

The headquarters of the Youths Hostel on Main street is all aglow in the preparation for the mass reunion of young hostellers held over this week-end. It is expected that the capacity of the place will be taxed. The home-coming of the directors, Monroe and Isabel Smith from their extensive western trip is expected Christmas evening. Inside the hostel new international decorations have been placed and the rooms made most attractive. The open fire places will blaze away to make cheery the many guests. Former and future hostellers will meet to discuss plans and tell of experiences. After the merry-making in Northfield many of those attending are expected to visit other nearby hostels and enjoy the traveling about the country on ski's. It will be interesting to observe the various groups all enthusiastic over the holiday outing.

Northfield Post Office Moves January First

It has been definitely decided that the Northfield post office will remove to its new location in the Proctor block and be open for business on January first. The rooms to be occupied have been re-decorated and prepared for occupancy and a number of workmen have been employed. The furnishings and fittings in the present office have been purchased from Mrs. Richards and will be moved, although the number of lock boxes will be increased. All details have been approved by an inspector from the department and Postmaster Lawrence Quinlan will be able to render prompt and continued service during the transfer.

CHURCH SERVICES

TRINITARIAN CHURCH REV. W. STANLEY CARNE

Sunday school at 10 o'clock. Preaching service at 11 when the choir will sing special anthems; sermon by the pastor. Sunday school at No. 3 at 2:30. At 7 the Senior Endeavor will be led by Matthew Forsaith. At 8 the choir will present a carol concert at the church.

An appeal recently made for special gifts to Missions, and envelopes distributed for the same are now due and should be in not later than Jan. 3.

The program for Sunday evening, Dec. 27 is as follows:

Organ prelude, Christmas Carols; Solo, "O Come, Emanuel, Away in a Manger and Saw You Never in the Twilight"; Processional, "We Would See Jesus"; Invocation; Anthem, "The Song in the Air"; Solo, "Gesu Bambino"; Carols, "We Three Kings, Come All Ye Shepherds"; Hymn, "O Come, All Ye Faithful"; Scripture; Anthem, "The Shepherds Came"; Solo, "Little Noel"; Carols, "Hark, Ye Children, Masters in this Hall"; Christmas Message; Offertory, "Noel"; Hymn, "Joy to the World"; Solo, "An Old Sacred Lullaby"; Anthem, "Silent Night, Holy Night"; Recessional, "O Sing a Song of Bethlehem"; Benediction and Choral Amen; Organ Postlude, "March of the Magi."

SOUTH CHURCH REV. MARY ANDREWS CONNER

Sunday, 9:45, Church school. At 10:45 Church Worship. The subject of the service will be "Why Was I Born?" A theme looking into the new year.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH REV. JAMES I. MITCHELL

Masses, first Sunday of the month 8:30 a. m. Every Sunday, 10:30 a. m.



"Men travel bravely by a thousand roads,
Some broad and lined with palaces, some steep
And hard and lonely, some that blindly twist
Through tangled jungles where there is no light;
And mostly they are travelled thoughtlessly.
But once a year an ancient question comes
To every traveller passing on his way,
A question that can stab and burn and bless:
'Is this the road that leads to Bethlehem?'"

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Have you heard that dear old story
How the Angels sang at night,
And filled the air with gladness
On that Christmas Eve so bright?

How they said that peace would come
To this world so dark in sin—
For the little Christ was born
In a stable, of an Inn;

And the message that they brought
Is herald far and near.
The Wise men came from the East
Bringing rich gifts and cheer.

Of that wonderful, brilliant star
That led them on the way—
Until they reached the manger
Where the dear Christ child lay.

The Christ child so pure and Holy
In the cattle manger, lay
No downy pillow for His head
There was nothing—but the hay.

The Shepherds too, saw that light,
As the Angel chorus sings
That sweet and marvelous story,
That still on the midnight rings.

We are now singing that story
Of peace on earth today
While all around the world, we hear
Of strife and hate, every day.

So now, at this Christmas time
We're waiting His return
Then He, the Lord, the King of Kings
Shall reign on David's throne.

Then the promise will be fulfilled
With peace on earth again;
And everyone shall bow the knee
For all shall worship Him.
—Bertha S. Latelle

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

The Christmas spirit fills the air
Enthralling countless numbers
While 'neath its pure and spotless mantle
The earth in silence slumbers.

The joy of giving lends itself,
To this sublime occasion
While peace and cheer rule the land
In every Christian nation.

The birth of Christ has made us one,
Alike, in cheerful giving,
Which brings to light the loveliness
Of every soul that's living.
—Cyril E. Brubaker

Massachusetts State College wanted a real live Christmas tree on its campus to be illuminated for the Christmas season, but inasmuch as it had none, it solved the problem by having moved a thirty-foot fir tree by a derrick truck and transplanted to a new location overlooking the college pond. The tree is now brightly illuminated with colored electric lights and presents a beautiful sight.

Handel's Messiah Wins For Gallagher Much Commendation

With the rendition of Handel's Messiah at the Second Congregational church in Greenfield last Sunday afternoon by the Greenfield Choral Society under the direction of Prof. M. L. Gallagher, director of music for the Northfield Schools much favorable comment and appreciation has been shown. A large number from Northfield attended the production.

Writing in the Recorder-Gazette, one interested listener says that "the rendition was most inspiring." Further he adds: "The Greenfield Choral club, under the inspiring leadership of Melvin L. Gallagher sang better than ever. The chorus work was fine. Its phrasing, emphasis, and volume, excellent. I am sure that if Mr. Gallagher enjoyed the rendering of the great choruses half as much as the audience, he went back to Northfield well repaid."

The soloists left little to be desired. The rendition of the great alto solo, "He was despised," by Mme. Cora Claiborne displayed rare feeling and expression. The old favorite, "I know that my Redeemer liveth" received very adequate interpretation by the beautiful voice of Mrs. Ruth Burt Sampson. The men did equally fine work in their solos. Nor must the skillful work at the organ and piano by Charles F. McCarthy and Marguerite Rist be forgotten. They gave strong support to the entire program. And the Pastoral Symphony was a delight. The tremendous audience was an inspiration in itself.

Hunters' Record

According to the returns made to the department of fisheries and game at Boston the record of deer-kills in the state exceeded that of last year by about 150. The kill by counties shows that Berkshire reported 538, Hampden 280, Hampshire 139 and Franklin 435. The total in the state is 1965. No figures are available for Northfield but less kills are reported than in previous years.

New Postage Stamp

Postmasters of the Northfield and East Northfield post offices have ordered a supply of the new postage stamps commemorating army and navy heroes. The army one-cent stamps show George Washington and Nathan Greene. The navy one-cent stamps show John Paul Jones and John Barry. Stamps of other denominations showing other heroes will be placed on sale later.

Miss Rand Reads At South Church; The First Tree Story

A goodly number of people assembled in the Unitarian church last Sunday evening to hear the reading of Henry Van Dyke's story of the First Christmas Tree, by Miss Marguerite Rand of Boston.

The foundation of this story is the life of Winfried of England, who traveled through Europe at the head of a band of Pilgrims, preaching the teachings of Jesus to the heathen. The opening scene was laid in the Cloister of Pfalz on Christmas Eve in 722 A. D. and shows the consecration of those who will carry the good news to those who live in darkness. The closing scene is about a great oak tree, around which the followers of the god Thor had gathered to propitiate anger of their god. Winfried and his pilgrim band, by their religion had won the followers of Thor and on Christmas eve the service of sacrifice and propitiation around the oak tree was turned into one of rejoicing, in which the oak tree was made the center of their first Christian church. With pictures appropriate to the setting of the story, and music of the period sung by the Nuns of the Convent, the Chant of the Pilgrims as they marched through the Black Forest, the chant of the worshippers of Thor before the Thunder Oak, and the final Christmas hymn of the Pilgrims—all combined to make an impressive and entirely unique Christmas Service.

Miss Rand read the story beautifully and I. J. Lawrence with six members of the North church choir, assisted most effectively in the music.

Hinsdale Rip-Raps

Motorists going through Hinsdale after passing over the Northfield road bridge have noticed considerable work going on the north bank of the Ashuelot river south of the bridge toward the Pelech meadows. At the time of the flood last March much of this bank was torn away and River street which runs along the river was completely under water. Not having been able to secure state aid for this work, the town now proposes to put a steam shovel in the bed of the stream and clear it of the rocks and stones which impede its flow and use the material in building up a substantial wall and bank on the north side. It will mean the employment of a number of men much to be desired and the improvement of the town.

ATTA BOYI SMILE!



Well Known Man Dies At His Home On Hinsdale Road

At his home on the Hinsdale road about a mile north of the Northfield town line, Willis D. Stearns was found dead Sunday afternoon as he lay on a couch at his farm, well known to many as the Rock Island tea room. Mr. Stearns was a native of Hinsdale and was 68 years of age. He had been moderator of the town meetings, former selectman, an auctioneer, dealer in antiques, and a farmer. He was well known to Northfield citizens and had many friends here. Death was due to a heart attack. He had been about the house during the day and had shown no signs of illness.

Mr. Stearns was born in Hinsdale, Aug. 29, 1868, one of six children of Dwight and Hannah (Smith) Stearns. He married Miss Lizzie Gamble of St. George, N. B., March 12, 1890. Mrs. Stearns died June 19, 1930.

Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Stearns: Clifford D., member of the board of selectmen of Hinsdale; Sidney W., assistant ticket agent in Northampton; Galen G., who conducts Stearns' garage in Northfield, and Miss Sybil Stearns, superintendent of park concessions in New York City. Another daughter, Gladys Clara, died May 3, 1916.

He was a member of Golden Rule lodge of Masons of Hinsdale. Mr. and Mrs. Stearns were well known for the excellent manner in which they conducted their Rock Island Farm Tea Room which Mrs. Stearns operated for eight years before her death. After her passing, Mr. Stearns continued it with other help.

Besides his children Mr. Stearns is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Nellie A. Adams of South Vernon and Mrs. E. E. Aldrich of Keene, also several grandchildren.

The funeral was held Wednesday afternoon from his home with Rev. Johnson Haines of the Hinsdale Congregational church officiating. Burial was in the Stearns family plot in Pine Grove cemetery.

Vernon Resident Dies; Fred E. Kendall

Fred Ellsworth Kendall of Vernon, Vt., died at his home last Saturday morning after a long period of failing health. He was born in West Brattleboro, March 1, 1864, youngest son of Dan and Lucretia Kendall. They came to the present homestead when he was 11 years of age. He has always made his home with his sister, the late Mrs. Ella Beers and since her death with his niece, Marcia Beers.

Mr. Kendall was a very quiet unassuming man. He leaves a sister, Mrs. Nettie Haskell, a niece Marcia Beers and a nephew Clarence Beers, all of Vernon, also a nephew, D. C. Haskell, of New York City.

The funeral was held at the Chapel, Monday afternoon, Rev. George A. Gray of the South Vernon Adventist church officiating. The bearers were J. H. Frost, B. A. Streeter, Willis Collier, and C. A. Beers. Burial was in the family plot in Tyler cemetery. Those from out of town who attend the funeral were Mrs. Merritt Proulx and Miss Bernice Proulx of Marlboro, N. H.

Winter Is Here

Monday ushered in the winter according to the calendar but some of us feel that already we have had quite an advance notice with snow and ice, lowered temperatures and blustery winds. However, the past week has been pleasant and pleasing alike to merchants and shoppers, but the young folks want a little more snow for the holidays to complete their vacation pleasures. Monday by the way was also the shortest day of the season.

TO ALL OF OUR FRIENDS
A MERRY, MERRY CHRISTMAS
and
A HAPPY, PROSPEROUS YEAR

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Class 50—50c deposited weekly amounts to \$25
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Class 200—\$2 deposited weekly amounts to \$100
Class 500—\$5 deposited weekly amounts to \$250

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PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. George Pefferlee and her mother, Mrs. Lyman, are entertaining friends for the Christmas holiday.

The local post offices are closed all of Christmas day.

Dr. Aaron Newton is home for the holiday season with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Chauncey Newton, at their home here.

Miss Sophie Service is spending a two weeks vacation with friends and relatives in Boston and "down in Maine."

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert F. Randolph, Jr., of Westfield, N. J. and their little daughter, are visiting his father and mother, Dr. and Mrs. H. F. Randolph on Main St. Mrs. Randolph was the former Edith Tompkins whose parents have recently built the beautiful new residence on Winchester road.

Joseph Waite and family of Springfield are spending the Christmas holidays with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Walter H. Waite.

Arthur W. Wilkinson, a former resident of this town, is visiting here for a few days. He is now located at Easton, Pa.

Donald Sutherland, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Sutherland of Parker street who is attending Wesleyan college at West Virginia, is spending the holiday vacation at his home here.

Mrs. Edna B. H. Jenkins of Jackson Heights New York, and a summer resident of Rustic Ridge, is spending the winter at St. Petersburg, Fla.

John L. Grandin of Boston, vice-president of the Northfield Schools is a member of the old South church in Boston and now actively interested as chairman of a committee to erect a new large stone tower on the church to take the place of one which was removed some time ago.

Mr. J. F. Bittering of Main St. has closed his home and gone to visit relatives at Ocala, Fla. Later he will enjoy an ocean voyage and return to Northfield in the early spring.

Chandler Holton who is teaching at Milton Academy is spending the holiday vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred A. Holton at their home on Highland avenue.

Mrs. Gertrude L. Leavis will leave early next month to spend the remainder of the winter at St. Petersburg, Fla.

Miss Pauline Moor will spend the Christmas season with her mother here and together both will also visit friends in Northampton.

Mrs. E. F. Howard is visiting her daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. George Gordon at Cambridge previous to leaving for California to spend the remainder of the winter.

Miss Jean Stanley of Cleveland, Ohio, is visiting her mother Mrs. W. P. Stanley of Highland avenue for the holiday season.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Henry Smith of Swampscott will spend the holiday, Christmas, with his mother, Mrs. N. Fay Smith, at her home on the Birnam road.

Lawrence Durgin is spending his holiday vacation from college with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Lazelle of Glenwood avenue.

CHRISTMAS CANDY SPECIALS

2-lb Box Assortment \$1.20
(Packed in Xmas Package)

Other Fancy Xmas Packages 50c to \$2.00

Fresh Roasted Mixed Nuts 1b 59c

Assorted Fruits \$1.00 to \$1.50

(Packed in Fancy Boxes)

Candy Cakes 5c, 10c, 15c, 25c

Chocolate Santa Claus 5c, 10c, to 25c

Candy Apples and Pumpkins 5c

Satin-Finish Ribbon Candy 1b 35c

(1 1/4-lb Box, 45c)

American Mixture 1b 29c

(Hard Candies)

Pure Molasses Hard Candies 1b 29c

Assorted Fruit-filled Hard Candies 1b 29c

Candies

CARL'S GOODIE SHOP

25 Federal St. Greenfield



PERSONALS

Miss Polly Parker who is head of the Reed College Dispensary at Portland, Oregon, will spend her Christmas holidays in California and will visit Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Wood of El Monte.

Seth Field, who is resident manager of the Harvard Square Theatre in Cambridge, will spend the holiday season with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Field at their home on Main St.

Myron Johnson who is attending the Bryant School in Boston is home with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Johnson for the holidays.

Marion Spaulding of Winchester road who is a student at the American International College in Springfield has been pledged to Kappa Sigma sorority in her freshman year.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Black are the happy parents of a daughter born last Monday at the Franklin county hospital.

At the Farren hospital last Sunday a daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Scoble.

Mrs. Beatie Symonds of Highland avenue will be located at Orlando, Fla., for the next two months. She has closed her home on Highland avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. George W. Loos and their family from Princeton, N. J., are spending the holiday season here with Mrs. Loos' parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Moody.

Miss Betty Nilo who has been staying with Mrs. Lawrence Lazelle has gone to visit her aunt, Mrs. Gove, of Vernon, for the Christmas tide.

Miss Katherine Breinig and her brother, Daniel, have gone to Berwick, Pa., to be with their sister, Mrs. Jennings for a time.

A. Gordon Moody, resident manager of the Northfield hotel, has returned from a trip to Bermuda. He enjoyed the visit very much and is looking very well.

Mr. and Mrs. Ambert G. Moody will entertain all members of their family on Christmas day. There will be fourteen in the group, children and grandchildren.

Beatrice and Isabel Newton have come to spend the holiday with Mr. and Mrs. J. Chauncey Newton.

Dr. A. H. Wright was called to Marlboro, Vt., in consultation last week.

F. H. Briesmaster is at home after spending some time on a visit with relatives in New York City.

John Bennett is at home from Temple Medical of Philadelphia for the Christmas season.

Mrs. Norma Nims has closed her home on Main street and will spend the winter with relatives at Saugus.

Goodwill Among Men

It is difficult to be optimistic about peace on earth and goodwill among men this Christmas. Nations armed to the teeth, bloody civil war in Spain, tensions on half a dozen fronts—these paint anything but a picture of a world living in harmony.

And yet with Christmas time always comes a spirit of peace, of happiness, of goodwill. Captured by thoughts of holly wreaths and tinsel, of sleigh bells and Santa Claus, of children waiting in wistful expectation for Christmas morning, all of us are aware of something in our hearts that makes this a "merry" Christmas.

The One whose birthday we observe knew about that "something." He called it human love and brotherhood and it was the foundation of his teaching.

But Christ did more than preach peace, goodwill among men—he lived it. In that age-old link between preaching and practice is found the message the world ought to have this Christmas. It is easy to preach peace, easy for individuals, easy for nations. Practicing peace, whether in relations with our neighbors or with our neighbor-nations, is a harder task.

That task must be mastered, or peace on earth and goodwill among men will never be more than a dream. For individuals it means following the way of the kind word, the friendly act, the neighbor spirit. For nations it means following specific practical policies which translate peace sentiment into legislative and diplomatic realities. Peace is a year-round job, one to which each of us this Christmas might well dedicate all that we have and all that we are.

—G. L. H.



The reduced rates on night and Sunday out-of-town calls are extended to include calls made all day this Christmas and New Year's,* any time between 7 P. M. the night before and 4:30 A. M. the next day.

This year, send your greetings by telephone. Take advantage of these low holiday rates.

*Certain foreign points excluded. Ask the Toll operator for information.

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Concord, New Hampshire	.25	.55
Hartford, Connecticut	.35	.55
Montpelier, Vermont	.40	.70
New York City	.50	.85
Springfield, Massachusetts	.25	.50

Remember, these low rates apply all day on both holidays

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PUBLIC FORUM

AN OPEN LETTER

The letter is to anonymous Trinitarians, and I may need to include others in friendship. In the last few years of my residence in Northfield three letters without signatures have come from avowed Trinitarians; one lies now on the desk, the last opened. In the handwriting they have been from three persons who wish me well. I trust there are other well wishers, and that there is at least one who will be frank enough to let his or her identity be known.

Information is wanted, not so much as to who these are that have been writing, as to the matter about which they darkly write. Some one, to whom to turn in name, will have to tell me as a friend.

Something in the years of privilege may have been overlooked, or, maybe, I have not looked broadly enough. My reading has been rather wide and in a measure careful. There are books to seek because of their inspiration and helpfulness. There are characters of history which, in their kindred humanity, we ought to know, among them—shall we say?—Jesus is chief. The last letter referred to urges, in climax of appeal, to confess Jesus "God, as He claimed to be." "He claimed to be?" Where? Has this person, or have others, access to a source of information not available to me? Let anyone so favored enlighten me. I would sit close, face to face, that he might tell; or, as my seeing is better than my hearing, some word that the eye may see would be welcomed. It ought to be sent in the cheer and good will of the season. If so sent, it would be so received.

Charles C. Conner

Wrecked Motorist (opening his eyes): I had the right of way, didn't I?
Bystander: You sure did, old-timer, but the other boso had a moving van.—Waste Basket.

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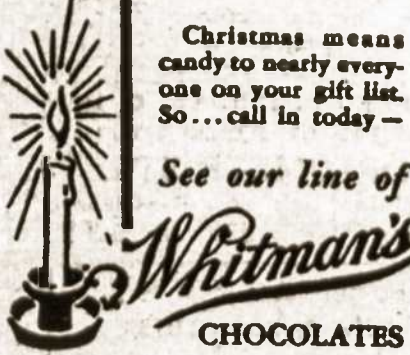
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LOCALS

The town basketball team played the Hinsdale team Tuesday evening and won another victory by a score of 34-28. The Northfield players were, Polhemus, Amsden, Briemaster, Newton, Streeter, Harris and Buffum.

The Friendly class of the Congregational church have sent a cheer of Christmas to the Frontier Nursing Service in Kentucky by the gift of twelve sets of layettes. The class also recently contributed a substantial amount to the work of the Misses Truesdel in Africa.

The receipts of the sale for Christmas seals last year in Northfield amount to \$195 and Mrs. Marion E. Lilly the chairman for this year expects the returns for 1936 to exceed this amount. Already returns made amount to more than \$150.

The Christmas services at St. James Episcopal church in Greenfield are announced as follows: Thursday, Dec. 24, 4 p. m. Christmas Eve service; Friday, Christmas day, 8 a. m. Holy Communion; Sunday, Dec. 27, 8 a. m. Holy Communion, 10:45, morning sermon and prayer, 4 p. m. festival evening song. On Tuesday, Dec. 29, 3:30 p. m. will be the Children's party.

In the County league of bowling teams, Northfield has taken a fall recently and has lost first place to the Weldon Hotel team. Northfield occupies second position but is closely pressed by Bernardston. The Northfield boys are a little weak from overwork and that energetic bowler, Phil Porter, will have to prescribe proper diet and exercise for its members to get back on the "band wagon." However, Ware, Dunnell, Porter and Gingras have rolled high scores.

Advertising in the Press brings results. Last week in our classified column appeared the loss of a gold pin, a family heirloom. A young lady filled with distress was made happy when Mrs. D. F. Sutherland of Parker avenue became the means of restoring it to the owner. Mrs. Sutherland had her copy of the Press at 8:10 a. m. Friday. Within 10 minutes the loser was acquainted of the find.

The Hermonite, a student paper of Mount Hermon school appears in new form in its issue of Dec. 10. Although half the size of the paper previously published it is of eight pages and printed on buff paper. Robert G. Porter is the editor-in-chief and he with his assistants have done a good job in its "get up."

The Northfield basketball team suffered a defeat at Charlemont with the town team last week Thursday evening by a score of 33 to 31. Those playing on the Northfield team were Buffum, Polhemus, Briemaster, Amsden, Streeter and Harris.

Joseph R. Laurie as administrator of the estate of Jean E. Laurie who was killed by an automobile driven by Edward Scoble of Northfield on Deerfield street in Greenfield last August has sued him for \$10,000. The child was crossing the street when the accident occurred.

William K. Rosewarne, 29, of Gill, was arrested by a Federal Marshall last week Thursday. He is charged with stealing a car at Brattleboro and driving it to West Swansey, N. H.

The Lathis Theatre announces a special holiday attraction on Friday and Saturday of this week and next Monday and Tuesday in "Born to Dance." It is a real musical extravaganza with a large company of real artists, headed by Eleanor Powell.

Mr. and Mrs. Harlan White, who are sojourning during the winter months in Southern Pines, N. C., are enjoying their stay there and send greetings to their many friends here. They have forwarded to Northfield some very fine specimens of the long pine and cones which one sees throughout the southern land. They are appreciated at this season by those fortunate to have received one.

Brainerd Willey is engaged at the East Northfield post office in temporary work but expects to be added to the permanent service later on. He is next in line for appointment as a result of a civil service examination.

Jock Harris that versatile Scotch entertainer will appear in audience at the Northfield hotel New Year's Eve.

Another illuminated Christmas tree has been planted in the fountain plot at the head of Warwick avenue. Some kind friends have been busy.

The offices of the Northfield Schools will be closed from Thursday to Monday this and next week owing to the holidays.

The Back Yard Gardener

Say, did I get a big kick the other night? Mum came home from an afternoon bridge party and told me that she had heard two ladies arguing as to whether the advice of the Back Yard Gardener was correct or not, and she sat taking it all in, they not knowing that she was the Back Yard Gardener's wife.

What they were talking about was the Saintpaulia, or in common day language, the African violet. One contended that the Back Yard Gardener was right, that African violets weren't too difficult to grow because she had tried it. And the other one said she'd been told that they were hard to grow.

Well, you remember how I bragged about mine doing so well when the Jerusalem cherries had turned yellow and the cyclamen had passed to plant heaven. Well, it only goes to show that a person shouldn't brag, because just a few days later all of the blossoms fell off.

Now, that doesn't mean that they are hard to grow. It just means that I got absent-minded. In fact, I let the poor thing go for about two days without water, so what else could happen? I had always kept the plant in a shallow bowl with a constant supply of water. And naturally when I forgot myself and the water dried up, the flowers simply passed out.

Just how severe the damage was I'm not certain, but I'll tell you what I did. I immediately got hold of one of these new fangled pads that you use as a moist base for potted plants. These pads are made of some sort of absorbent material and you put them in a shallow dish. Keep the water about half way or three-quarters of the way up the pad, and then put your ordinary clay pot on top of the pad.

You probably will need a little water in addition to what is absorbed from the pad, but in case you do get absent-minded, as I did, your plant isn't so apt to suffer.

And then I had a friend tell me a story which brings out this same point. He carried one of these African violets some distance on a trip, and of course it dried up and the blossoms dropped. He and I are both hoping that with a little care, they will soon start blooming again.

And that really is the secret of keeping plants in the home and is the main reason why this one lady thought that African violets are hard to grow. Any plant is hard to grow in the house if you don't give it food and moisture and sunshine or shade as it desires. African violets aren't bad about sunshine. In fact, greenhouse men grow them in rather heavy shade and they will grow a long time in a 5 or 6-inch pot. But remember to keep the soil moist.

Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Fitt will spend the Christmas season with their daughter, Mrs. E. M. Powell, her husband and family at their home in Wayne, Pa.

At The Victoria

For your Christmas holiday attend Friday or Saturday, Dec. 25 - 26 the showing of "Private Number" with Robert Taylor, Loretta Young and others and the co-feature "Comin' 'round the Mountain" with Gene Autry. Also comedy cartoon "Major Barney Google."

Starting Sunday, "Annie Cookley" with Barbara Stanwyck, a superb play and the co-feature "If You Could Only Cook" with Herbert Marshall.

René Maison to Sing Samson in First Metropolitan Opera Saturday Broadcast

By René Maison

There comes a time in every man's life when only belief in himself and in his destiny will save him. It is then that the man who is moved by a deep, underlying faith finds strength to go on, to overcome the obstacles that stand between him and the fulfillment of his destiny.

I, too, have had my hours of discouragement and not only during the years when, like all other youthful singers, I was striving for recognition. In my boyhood, during the years that my native Belgium was under German occupation, I worked in a coal mine at Charleroi, near my home in order to avoid being deported to Germany.

All about me men and boys were breaking down under the heavy labor, the underground atmosphere and the constant breathing of coal dust. But I kept a stiff upper lip, as you say in America, and dreamed of the day when I, René Maison, would be singing in grand opera. When it was all over I found that I was better, healthier and stronger—ready to take advantage of my opportunities to study voice, to sing first at Geneva, then Paris, Buenos Aires, Chicago and, now finally, at the great Metropolitan Opera.

And that is what finally restores the strength of Samson, the role I am singing in the opera "Samson and Delilah," which will be broadcast over National Broadcasting Company network Saturday afternoon, December 26, direct from the stage of the Metropolitan by The Radio Corporation of America. You may think what you will of Samson's weakness under the guile of the faithless Delilah, but notice, the broken trust that keeps the

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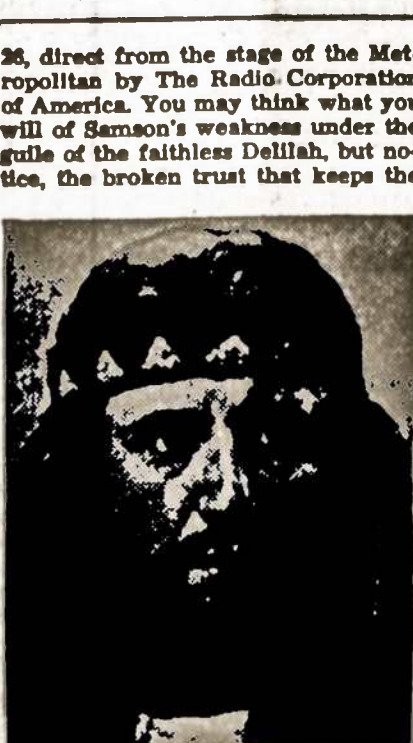
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René Maison to Sing Samson in First Metropolitan Opera Saturday Broadcast



René Maison

feverently calling upon his fellow Israelites to take courage and throw off their yoke of oppression. But they are without a leader, without arms, and more important, without confidence. Only the mighty Samson has the courage to strike when the satrap enters with many warriors to mock the despairing Israelites. He, the man with the strength of a hundred because he believes in his destiny, leads an open revolt against the Philistines.

But now Delilah, young, lovely and sensuous, comes forth from the temple bearing garlands of flowers for the victors. She approaches Samson, conscious of her power to sway the emotions of men. Samson prays for power to resist the temptress but his senses are confounded, Samson is lost. The Philistines fall upon him and take him captive.

Blinded and shorn of his heavy locks, Samson is put to grinding corn for his captors.

His opportunity finally comes when the High Priest and the Philistines feasting in the temple, weary of making sport of the shorn giant. He begs a boy to lead him to the pillars that support the temple and, with the strength that comes of renewed faith, pulls down the supports and brings the structure crashing down on himself and his enemies.

It is a tragedy, of course, that Samson must die, but do not forget that he fulfills what he knows is his mission. We can all learn something from that story, the story of a man's faith and trust born again.

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The Northfield Press

NORTHFIELD, MASS.

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Editor and Publisher
Telephone 166-2A weekly newspaper published
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store in East Northfield or at the
Northfield Pharmacy Wednes-
days before 6 o'clock will be as-
sured insertion in the week's
issue.

Friday, December 25, 1936

Subscribers to the Press
should allow two weeks for
a change in address if they
do not wish to miss a copy
of the paper. Notify us as
early as possible of any
change in address.

EDITORIAL

The world is in dire need of spiritual help. This thought was emphasized by Francis B. Sayre, assistant secretary of state, recently in an address at Boston when he said, "only the teachings of Jesus of Galilee provide the basic values for a stable civilization for all time and for every race. Humanity is not a thirst for more inventions nor for more scientific discoveries. Materialism has not yielded practical results. These things will not stop heartaches, broken lives or suicides. What men and women are groping for today are spiritual values such as abiding faith in the goodness of life, the gift of love which passeth all understanding, joy in daily work and satisfaction in common place labor, the kind of happiness which can't be conquered by outward circumstances. We must go back to the living Christ and to the audacious thrilling winsome figure that actually lived—and still lives."

What a timely sermon. Much interest is being attached by social workers everywhere to the studies being made

by eminent professors as to the temperaments of our American people. Every year is witness to an increasing and alarming number of human nervous wrecks. Irritability is evident and temperamentalism spreads. In a study of conditions these teachers have concluded that the problem of money comes first among us, the ability to earn and provide for a proper living for the earner and his family; secondly, many are concerned with the philosophy of life, materialism having crowded out the spiritual. And thirdly, mental anguish about physical health and the power to endure. As men and women grow older they become more reflective and turn to self-evaluation. In previous generations this turned to religion and the thought of immortality but in the present age men want to live right here and now. What a problem confronts us. Who will solve it?

He Just Talks

One night when Dwight L. Moody was walking home in the dark, two people walking behind him were discussing his meeting. One of them said, "Did Moody preach tonight?" The other replied, "No, he didn't preach, he only talked."

"Did you ever hear him before?"

"Yes."

"How do you like him?"

"Well, we don't like him. He never has the church service, and he doesn't have on any robes; and then his preaching—why, he doesn't preach at all, he just talks."

Moody thought that was quite a compliment. He said, "I think sometimes we almost preach people to death—it is preach, preach, preach!"

Addressing the ministers in one of his services, he said, "You hear so much about the preacher of the twentieth century. Do you know what kind of a man he will be? He will be the kind of preacher who opens his Bible and preaches out of that. Oh, I am sick and tired of this essay preaching. I am nauseated with this 'silver-tongued orator' preaching. I like to hear preachers, not windmills."

The celebration of the century of Mr. Moody's birth is bringing to the front many happy and interesting memories of the great evangelist.

NORTHFIELD FARMS

The annual meeting of the Northfield Farms Library association will be held at the library building at Northfield Farms, on Saturday evening, Jan. 2, at eight o'clock. All persons residing in School District No. 4, who are qualified to vote in town affairs are requested to attend this meeting.

William Leach has secured employment in the new shoe factory at Brattleboro.

Albert St. Peter has purchased another truck to add to his fleet to care for his increasing business.

Fullerton Galbraith of the Fitchburg Normal school is at home with his parents for the holidays.

Northfield Farms residents have illuminated their homes this year in a very attractive manner. As one moves along the highway one finds the cheery lights at almost every home and many have a showing of the lighted tree. Sunset Inn has a large tree on its porch. A Press representative believes that the Farms folks have made their section of the town the most fascinating with decorations.

SOUTH VERNON

Services at the South Vernon church will be as usual next Sunday with mid-week service at the Advent Home Thursday evening.

A Christmas concert was rendered at the South Vernon church Thursday evening. The large choir gave a most inspiring program of music.

The Vernon Home is well filled with guests for the winter season and Rev. and Mrs. F. H. Leavitt are busy caring for their large family.

Miss Louise Kinsman of Plainville has come to the Vernon Home to spend the winter.

Mails are moving somewhat slowly between Northfield and South Vernon on account of the holiday season and further news from our faithful correspondent has not arrived at the time of going to press.—Editor.

Mrs. Stinky: Dear, the baby has swallowed a penny. What on earth shall I do?

Mr. Stinky: Oh, let him have it. His birthday is next Thursday anyway.

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Mon. - Tues. Dec. 28 - 29

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News - Comedy - Oddity

Wed. - Thurs. Dec. 30 - 31

THE GOLD DIGGERS OF '37

Dick Powell - Joan Blondell

Victor Moore - Glenda Farrell

Latest News - Novelty

INTERESTING ITEMS

Mount Holyoke college is to observe its centennial celebration next May with appropriate exercises and pageants. Students will participate in the many events and the majority expect to be able to secure costumes and dresses of a hundred years ago to wear during the period of the anniversary. It is reported that those students who have gone home for the Christmas vacation will be ransacking the old trunks at home for old costumes.

The Kurn Hattin Homes at Westminister have just received an anonymous gift of fifteen thousand dollars to provide a combination gymnasium and auditorium for use by the girls' unit. The new building will be of brick and about 50 by 100 in size.

A FINE GIFT FOR
CHRISTMAS
THE
NORTHFIELD
PRESS
FOR ONE YEAR
ONE DOLLAR

Is A Poet

Fred L. Gaines of Greenfield is quite a poet. Just listen to this:

If you want to learn music
Then don't come to me,
My job is to teach little children
to see.

That I cannot read Greek
May cause some surprise,
But if you want to see better
Just bring in your eyes.

For forty-three years
With scarcely a rest
I've been proving to people
Gaines' glasses are best.

It isn't often that a business man gets poetic, but Mr. Gaines with his fine smiling disposition has shown that a man really can take pleasure in his effort.

NOTHING BUT LEAVES

I think that I shall never see
A plant untidy as a tree.

A tree which drops its leaves all day
For me to rake, and take away.

A tree which wears in summer
heat
A gown of green from head to feet.

But when the autumn breezes
blow
It lets its fancy raiment go.

And welcomes bitter winter
weather
By going nudist altogether.

So leaves are raked by fools like me
To tidy up beneath a tree.
—Canadian Railways Magazine

Waiter: How can you tell an old chicken from a young one?
Patron: By the teeth.
Waiter: But, sir, chickens don't have teeth.
Patron: No, but I have.

Mileage Hints

By J. F. Winchester
Supervisory Motor Vehicle Equipment,
Colonial Esso Marketers

ONCE upon a time the problem of cold weather lubrication was severe and not very easily solved by the average automobile owner. In recent years, however, petroleum technology has made such wonderful strides that there is today available a motor oil with those peculiar properties so necessary for adequate cold weather automobile engine lubrication.

As some motorists know, oil has a tendency to thin out with heat and thicken with cold. An oil thin enough to flow freely at low temperatures in days gone by, would be too thin at high engine operating temperatures to provide satisfactory lubrication. Contrarywise, an oil with sufficient body to maintain the requisite film of lubrication at high operating temperatures would be so viscous as to make starting difficult or impossible, and too heavy to flow freely and lubricate all moving parts at the low temperatures prevailing when the engine is started.

Today, however, petroleum scientists have developed an oil which, although free flowing at low temperatures, maintains adequate body at high temperatures to control oil consumption and provide full lubrication. Such an oil is said to have a very high "viscosity index." This is the type of motorist should use for cold weather operation. To insure satisfactory lubrication every motorist owes it to himself to investigate very carefully the type of oil he permits the service station man to put in his crankcase at this season of the year, and to insist on a lubricant with a high viscosity index.

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